

Message Text

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SUBJECT: NATO SUMMIT -- BRIEFING FOR THE SHAH

REF: STATE 143036

1. PER REFTTEL, THIS MESSAGE FORWARDS THE TEXT OF A
SUMMARY OF THE NATO LONG TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM (LTDP).

2. BEGIN TEXT:

THE LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME - A SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

AT THE MEETING OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT HELD
IN WASHINGTON ON 30TH AND 31ST MAY, THE LEADERS OF
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PAGE 02 STATE 145700

STATES PARTICIPATING IN THE INTEGRATED DEFENCE STRUCTURE
OF THE ALLIANCE GAVE THEIR ENDORSEMENT TO A WIDE RANGE
OF MEASURES AS AN ACTION PROGRAMME DESIGNED TO HELP
ADAPT THE DEFENCE POSTURE OF THE ALLIANCE TO THE
CHALLENGES OF THE 1980S. (FOOTNOTE. IN THIS
CONNECTION, TURKEY POINTED OUT THE IMPORTANCE TO HER
PARTICIPATION OF SUFFICIENT SUPPORT FROM HER ALLIES

AS WELL AS OF THE COMPLETE REMOVAL OF EXISTING

RESTRICTIONS ON THE PROCUREMENT OF DEFENCE EQUIPMENT.

2. THIS LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME HAS BEEN DEVELOPED, IN RESPONSE TO DIRECTIVES GIVEN AT THE SUMMIT MEETING HELD IN LONDON IN MAY 1977, AS A MEANS OF STRENGTHENING THE ONGOING NATO FORCE PLANNING AND NATIONAL PROGRAMMES IN THE FACE OF THE CHALLENGE TO ALLIANCE SECURITY POSED BY THE CONTINUING MOMENTUM OF THE WARSAW PACT MILITARY BUILD-UP. THE PROGRAMME MARKS A SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE FOR NATO THROUGH ITS PROJECTION OF ALLIANCE DEFENCE PLANNING INTO A LONGER TERM FRAMEWORK AND ITS EMPHASIS ON CO-OPERATIVE EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN THE DEFENCES OF THE ALLIANCE.

THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY BACKGROUND

3. THE ENHANCEMENT OF NATO'S SECURITY MUST BE ASSURED NOT ONLY BY STRENGTHENING THE ALLIANCE'S DETERRENT AND DEFENCE POSTURE BUT ALSO BY CONTINUED PURSUIT OF DETENTE AND, AS A KEY PART OF THAT PROCESS, EQUITABLE AND MEANINGFUL ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGREEMENTS. HOWEVER TRENDS IN THE MILITARY BALANCE, WHICH IN THE CONVENTIONAL AREA ARE MOVING STRONGLY TO NATO'S UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 145700

DISADVANTAGE, COULD, IF LEFT UNCHECKED, UNDERMINE DETERRENCE AND STABILITY. NATO IS DETERMINED TO MEET THIS CHALLENGE BY MAINTAINING A CREDIBLE DETERRENT AND DEFENCE POSTURE. NATO'S CAPABILITIES WILL CONTINUE TO BE DESIGNED TO SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF FORWARD DEFENCE BASED ON ADEQUATE CONVENTIONAL, THEATRE NUCLEAR AND STRATEGIC NUCLEAR FORCES THROUGH THE 1980S.

4. NATO ALSO RECOGNISES THE CHALLENGE TO ITS COLLECTIVE DEFENCE PLANNING ARISING FROM THE FACT THAT MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE ARE SOVEREIGN STATES. THEREFORE INCREASED ALLIANCE-WIDE CO-ORDINATION OF NATIONAL PLANNING IS REQUIRED TO STRENGTHEN NATO'S DEFENCE CAPABILITIES BY ACHIEVING A GREATER DEGREE OF CO-OPERATION AND RATIONALIZATION.

THE PROGRAMME

5. THE LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME IS DESIGNED TO MEET THESE CHALLENGES. IT PROVIDES FOR FORCE IMPROVEMENTS

IN CERTAIN SELECTED AREAS AND FOR A FAR GREATER DEGREE OF ALLIANCE CO-OPERATION, LEADING TO AN INCREASE IN OVERALL DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY FROM THE NATIONAL RESOURCES ALREADY MADE AVAILABLE OR PLANNED FOR THE ALLIANCE. FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS ARE TO BE MADE TO THE READINESS AND COMBAT CAPABILITIES OF NATO'S

MILITARY FORCES AND IN THE CAPABILITY TO REINFORCE
THOSE FORCES. THE PROGRAMME RECOMMENDS A SERIES OF
DETAILED ACTIONS TO IMPROVE NATO CAPABILITIES IN

CERTAIN PRIORITY AREAS: READINESS, REINFORCEMENT;
RESERVE MOBILIZATION; MARITIME POSTURE, AIR DEFENCE;
COMMUNICATIONS, COMMAND AND CONTROL; ELECTRONIC WAR-
FARE; LOGISTICS; RATIONALIZATION AND THEATRE NUCLEAR
FORCES. IN ALL THESE AREAS PARTICULAR EMPHASIS WILL
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 145700

BE PLACED ON CO-OPERATION BETWEEN MEMBER COUNTRIES.

THE ACTION AREAS

READINESS

6. THE ABILITY OF WARSAW PACT FORCES TO ATTACK WITH
LESS PREPARATION THAN IN THE PAST CHALLENGES NATO
FORCES TO BE READY TO RESPOND RAPIDLY WITH THE MAXI-
MUM POSSIBLE COMBAT CAPABILITY. NATO FORCES THUS
REQUIRE IMPROVEMENTS TO A WIDE RANGE OF DEFENCE
CAPABILITIES, ESPECIALLY ANTI-ARMOUR UNITS, MODERN
AIR-TO-SURFACE WEAPONS AND DEFENCE AGAINST CHEMICAL
WARFARE. IN-PLACE FORCES MUST BE READY WITHIN THE
MINIMUM WARNING TIME. ARRANGEMENTS FOR MAXIMUM
SUPPORT FROM THE CIVIL SECTOR ARE ESSENTIAL. PROGRAMMES IN-
CLUDE INCREASES IN THE NATIONAL HOLDINGS OF TANKS,
ANTI-ARMOUR WEAPONS AND MISSILES AND ARMED HELICOPTERS.
IT HAS ALSO BEEN AGREED TO PURSUE CO-OPERATIVE OR
CO-ORDINATED DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEXT-GENERATION ANTI-
ARMOUR WEAPONS. A PROGRAMME FOR SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASING
NATIONAL HOLDINGS OF MODERN AIR-TO-SURFACE WEAPONS
WILL ALSO BE INTRODUCED, ALONG WITH THE PURSUIT OF
A COMMON FAMILY OF THESE TYPES OF WEAPONS. PROTECTIVE
EQUIPMENT AGAINST CHEMICAL WARFARE WILL BE PROVIDED
TO MEET NATO STANDARDS. THE ABILITY OF COMBAT FORCES
TO UPGRADE AMMUNITION AT SHORT NOTICE WILL BE INCREASED .
IN ADDITION, A NUMBER OF NATIONS HAVE AGREED TO
INCREASE THE DEGREE OF COMMITMENT OF THEIR FORCES TO
NATO, WHICH WILL ENHANCE READINESS IN TIME OF CRISIS.

MULTILATERAL DISCUSSIONS TO SHORTEN THE REACTION TIME
OF THE 1ST NETHERLANDS CORPS ARE CONTINUING.
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PAGE 05 STATE 145700

REINFORCEMENT

7. THE IMBALANCE OF CONVENTIONAL FORCES IN EUROPE IS
SUCH THAT, IN PERIODS OF RISING TENSION OR CRISIS,

DETERRENCE COULD BE PUT AT RISK WITHOUT A CAPABILITY FOR RAPID AND EFFECTIVE REINFORCEMENT OF ALLIED COMMAND EUROPE AS A WHOLE. IMPROVEMENTS ARE NOW NECESSARY TO ENHANCE THE ALLIANCE CAPABILITIES FOR RAPID REINFORCEMENT. THIS INVOLVES THE COMMITMENT OF CIVIL AIR, SEA, LAND AND NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE RESOURCES TO THE REINFORCEMENT TASK AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF EFFECTIVE ARRANGEMENTS TO CO-ORDINATE THE FLOW OF REINFORCEMENTS. AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IS THE USE OF EXISTING EUROPEAN FACILITIES, WITH IMPROVEMENTS WHERE NECESSARY, TO RECEIVE AND MOVE FORWARD EXTERNAL REINFORCEMENTS WITH MINIMUM DELAY. IN ADDITION MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN TO ACCELERATE THE MOVEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT FIGHTING UNITS TO THE FORWARD AREAS IN THE CRITICAL EARLY PHASE. A MAJOR FEATURE IS THE PREPOSITIONING BY THE UNITED STATES OF THE HEAVY EQUIPMENT FOR THREE ADDITIONAL US DIVISIONS IN THE CENTRAL REGION BY 1982, RECOGNISING THE NEED FOR EUROPEAN ALLIES TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SUPPORT AND OTHER FACILITIES. FOR SOME ALLIES MODIFICATIONS TO CIVIL AIRCRAFT ARE PROPOSED TO CARRY EQUIPMENT WHICH CANNOT BE PREPOSITIONED. THE AMPHIBIOUS LIFT FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM/NETHERLANDS MARINE FORCE IS TO BE IMPROVED.

RESERVE MOBILIZATION

8. SINCE RESERVISTS COMPRISE A SIGNIFICANT PROPORTION OF NATO'S TOTAL GROUND FORCES, TIMELY DEPLOYMENT OF RESERVE UNITS IS CRITICAL, ESPECIALLY IN ALLIED COMMAND EUROPE. IT IS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO TAKE UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 145700

ADDITIONAL MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT RESERVISTS AND RESERVE FORMATIONS ARE PROPERLY EQUIPPED, TRAINED AND CAPABLE OF BEING RAPIDLY DEPLOYED TO LOCATIONS WHERE THEY ARE REQUIRED. PROGRAMMES ARE DESIGNED TO BRING NATIONAL RESERVE FORCES UP TO NATO STANDARDS AND TO SEEK TO UPGRADE AND IMPROVE THE OPERATIONAL READINESS OF CERTAIN RESERVE UNITS. IN ADDITION A NUMBER OF EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WILL CONSIDER PROVIDING ADDITIONAL RESERVE BRIGADES OVER THE LONGER TERM.

THIS WOULD INCREASE THE EFFECTIVE USE OF INDIVIDUAL RESERVISTS AND MAKE AVAILABLE ADDITIONAL COMBAT UNITS FOR INITIAL REINFORCEMENT.

MARITIME POSTURE

9. A NUMBER OF MARITIME PROGRAMMES HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON TO PROVIDE FOR GREATLY INCREASED CAPABILITIES IN MARITIME COMMAND, CONTROL AND COMMUNICATIONS AND

FOR AIR DEFENCE OF NAVAL UNITS. THE PROGRAMMES ALSO INCLUDE MEASURES TO ACHIEVE IMPROVED ANTI-SUBMARINE CAPABILITIES, BETTER ANTI-MISSILE SURFACE DEFENCE AND GREATER MINE WARFARE CAPABILITIES. CO-OPERATIVE OR CO-ORDINATED DEVELOPMENT OF KEY WEAPON SYSTEMS WILL BE PURSUED. IT HAS BEEN RECOGNISED THAT THE MOST SERIOUS DEFICIENCY LIES IN SHORTAGES IN THE NUMBER OF SHIPS, SUBMARINES AND AIRCRAFT AND THAT SPECIFIC REMEDIES FOR THESE SHORTFALLS SHOULD BE SOUGHT UNDER ESTABLISHED NATO PLANNING PROCEDURES.

AIR DEFENCE

10. AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON A BASIC ALLIANCE-UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 145700

WIDE CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAMME TO IMPROVE AIR DEFENCE CAPABILITIES RECOGNISING THE NEED FOR SUBSEQUENT DETAILED PLANNING AND REFINEMENT. IT INCLUDES MEASURES DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE IDENTIFICATION OF HOSTILE AIRCRAFT AND TO ENHANCE THE CONTROL OF NATO'S OWN COMBAT AIRCRAFT. PROVISION IS TO BE MADE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, ACQUISITION OF IMPROVED SURFACE-TO-AIR WEAPONRY, TO PROVIDE THE ALLIANCE WITH A SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCED CAPABILITY FOR ENGAGING WARSAW PACT AIRCRAFT PENETRATING AT ALL LEVELS.

COMMUNICATIONS, COMMAND AND CONTROL

11. A NUMBER OF CO-OPERATIVE EFFORTS WERE AGREED WHICH WILL MAKE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OVERALL CAPABILITIES OF THE ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNICATIONS, COMMAND AND CONTROL WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL TO POLITICAL CONSULTATION IN TIMES OF CRISIS AND FOR THE POLITICAL DIRECTION OF FORCES AND WHICH WILL ALSO ACHIEVE A HIGH LEVEL OF INTEROPERABILITY IN THE AREA OF TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS. THESE INCLUDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECOND PHASE OF THE NATO INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND CO-OPERATION AND CO-ORDINATED EFFORTS

IN THE FIELDS OF MARITIME COMMUNICATIONS, TACTICAL TRUNK NETWORK, SINGLE-CHANNEL RADIO ACCESS, NATO/NATIONAL AREA INTERCONNECTION, STRATEGIC AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING AND WAR HEADQUARTERS IMPROVEMENTS.

ELECTRONIC WARFARE

12. ALL NATO NATIONS HAVE AGREED THAT URGENT ACTION IS REQUIRED TO COPE WITH THIS IMPORTANT DIMENSION OF MODERN CONFLICT. PROGRAMMES PROVIDE FOR IMPORTANT IMPROVEMENTS IN NATO'S CAPABILITY TO COUNTER THE

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08 STATE 145700

SOPHISTICATED ELECTRONIC WARFARE THREAT POSED BY THE WARSAW PACT. THEY COVER LAND, AIR AND MARITIME FORCES, TOGETHER WITH IMPROVEMENTS IN NATO'S ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURES IN THIS FIELD, INCLUDING CLOSER COOPERATION IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

RATIONALIZATION

13. THE OBJECTIVE IS TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC SAVINGS AND ENHANCED MILITARY EFFICIENCY THROUGH INCREASED STANDARDIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY. PROGRAMMES INCLUDE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PROCEDURES FOR SYSTEMATIC LONG-RANGE ARMAMENTS PLANNING, NEW PROCEDURES FOR THE IMPROVED FORMULATION AND UTILIZATION OF STANDARDIZATION AGREEMENTS, AND CONTINUATION OF THE WORK BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS IN THE FIELD OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS. IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND ACQUISITION OF THE EQUIPMENT RECOMMENDED IN THE LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME, CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAMMES WILL BE PURSUED TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE. NATIONS HAVE ALSO ENDORSED THE NEED FOR THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY BETWEEN MEMBER COUNTRIES WHERE SUCH TRANSFERS CONTRIBUTE TO THE FURTHERANCE OF STANDARDIZATION/INTEROPERABILITY OF NATO DEFENCE EQUIPMENT.

LOGISTICS

14. POLICY AND ORGANIZATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN AGREED TO HARMONIZE AND CO-ORDINATE ARRANGEMENTS IN THE REAR AREAS AND THEREBY IMPROVE THE LOGISTIC SUPPORT OF COMBAT FORCES. THE LOGISTICS SUPPORT RESPONSIBILITIES BETWEEN NATO COMMANDERS AND MEMBER NATIONS WILL BE UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 09 STATE 145700

MORE CLEARLY DEFINED, AND IMPROVED LOGISTICS STRUCTURES PROVIDED WITHIN NATO MILITARY COMMANDS. A LOGISTICS MATTER PLANNING SYSTEM IS TO BE DEVELOPED TO PROVIDE

FOR BETTER PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF NATO LOGISTICS FUNCTIONS. THERE ARE ALSO TO BE INCREASED WAR RESERVE STOCKS AND WAYS ARE BEING SOUGHT TO IMPROVE FLEXIBILITY IN THE USE OF AMMUNITION STOCKS IN WAR AND TO BUILD UP STOCKS OF PRIMARY FUELS WITH IMPROVED STORAGE FACILITIES.

THEATRE NUCLEAR MODERNIZATION

15. MEASURES ARE BEING DEVELOPED TO ENSURE THAT NATO'S THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCES CONTINUE TO PLAY THEIR ESSENTIAL ROLE IN NATO'S DETERRENCE AND DEFENCE POSTURE.

IMPLEMENTATION

16. THERE IS TO BE A VIGOROUS AND SUSTAINED FOLLOW-THROUGH ON THE DETAILS OF THESE RECOMMENDATIONS. TO THIS END HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT HAVE PLEDGED THEIR FULL SUPPORT FOR THE INTENSIVE CIVIL AND MILITARY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS NEEDED AT NATIONAL AND NATO LEVEL. ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR ENSURING AN EFFECTIVE FOLLOW-THROUGH FOR THE MEASURES APPROVED UNDER THE LONG-TERM DEFENCE PROGRAMME, INCLUDING A STUDY ON STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL MACHINERY. THERE WILL BE FURTHER ACTION ON RELATED LOW COST/NO COST RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROVISION FOR PERIODIC MONITORING AND REVIEW OF PROGRESS.

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PAGE 10 STATE 145700

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